

Application No. 10/635,807
Amendment Dated 10/21/2005
Reply to Office Action of April 21, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 5-7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16-20 and 23-25 are canceled and claims 8 and 21 are amended. Claims 3-4 and 14-15 were canceled in a previous Amendment. Subsequent to the present Amendment, claims 8, 9, 21, 22 and 26-35 are pending.

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER:

It is noted and appreciated that the Examiner stated that claims 8, 9, 21 and 22 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 8 is amended to be in independent form and to include the limitations of claim 1 (the claim from which claim 8 depended). Claim 9 depends from claim 8. Claim 21 is amended to be in independent form and to include the limitations of claim 16 (the claim from which claim 21 depended). Claim 22 depends from claim 21. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner pass claims 8, 9, 21 and 22 to allowance.

It is also noted that the Examiner allowed claims 26-35 over the prior art.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102:

The Examiner first rejected claim 13 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,610,658 (Buchwald et al.). Claim 13 is canceled without prejudice to the filing of divisional and/or continuing applications.

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REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103:

The Examiner next rejected claims 1, 2, 5-7, 10, 11, 12, 16-20 and 23-25 under 103(a) as being unpatentable over Buchwald et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,387,188 (Watson). Claims 1, 2, 5-7, 10, 11, 12, 16-20 and 23-25 are canceled without prejudice to the filing of divisional and/or continuing applications

For at least the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Please charge or credit our
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